

WE CLAIM:

1. A respiratory mask comprising:

a shield including a bent sheet that is made from a material impermeable to air, that defines a rim-receiving recess at a concave side of said bent sheet, and that has a central portion which is adapted to confront the nose and the mouth of a wearer; and

a mask body detachably connected to said shield and including a rim that is received in said rim-receiving recess, that defines a chamber therein for receiving the nose and the mouth of the wearer, and that has an outer end in contact with said central portion of said sheet, and an inner end opposite to said outer end and adapted to contact the face of the wearer, said rim being formed with at least an aperture that is disposed between said inner and outer ends and that is in spatial communication with said chamber, said mask body further including a filter sheet that is permeable to air and that is attached to said rim to cover said aperture, said filter sheet cooperating with said bent sheet to define a gap therebetween, said gap being in fluid communication with said chamber through said filter sheet and said aperture.

2. The respiratory mask of Claim 1, wherein said central portion of said bent sheet is formed with an endless groove that protrudes outwardly of said

rim-receiving recess and that receives said outer end of said rim therein.

3. The respiratory mask of Claim 1, wherein said rim further has an outer surface extending between said inner and outer ends of said rim, said filter sheet having a rim portion that surrounds and that covers said outer surface of said rim, a pair of opposite side portions that extend outwardly from said rim portion for contacting the cheeks of the wearer, and a lower portion for contacting the chin of the wearer.

4. The respiratory mask of Claim 3, wherein said bent sheet has top and bottom sides, said bent sheet further having a pair of opposite cheek portions that extend transversely and respectively from two opposite sides of said central portion and that respectively confront said side portions of said filter sheet, and a chin portion that extends transversely from said bottom side of said central portion, that interconnects said cheek portions, and that confronts said lower portion of said filter sheet, said cheek and chin portions of said bent sheet cooperating with said side and lower portions of said filter sheet to define said gap thereamong.

5. The respiratory mask of Claim 4, wherein each of said cheek portions of said bent sheet is formed with at least a strap hole, said respiratory mask further comprising at least a pair of straps that are

respectively secured to said side portions of said filter sheet and that respectively extend through said strap holes in said cheek portions of said bent sheet.

5 6. The respiratory mask of Claim 5, wherein said shield further includes a flexible top rib that is secured to said top side of said bent sheet and that crosses said central and cheek portions of said bent sheet, and a flexible lower rib that is secured to
10 said bent sheet below said top rib and that crosses said central and cheek portions of said bent sheet, said central portion of said bent sheet being formed with a V-shaped groove that extends from said bottom side to said top side of said bent sheet in a transverse
15 direction relative to said top and lower ribs, said filter sheet further having a central portion that extends inwardly of said rim from said rim portion of said filter sheet and that covers said chamber at said outer end of said rim, and a protrusion that
20 protrudes outwardly from said central portion of said filter sheet into said V-shaped groove.

7. A respiratory mask comprising:

a shield including a bent sheet that is made from a material impermeable to air, and that defines a
25 receiving recess at a concave side of said bent sheet, said receiving recess having a size that is sufficient to cover the nose and the mouth of a wearer, said bent

sheet having two opposite sides, each of which is formed with a pair of upper and lower strap holes; and

a mask body detachably connected to said shield,
5 received in said receiving recess, and including a filter sheet that is permeable to air, and a pair of opposite straps that are respectively secured to two opposite sides of said filter sheet, each of said straps having two opposite ends that respectively
10 extend through said upper and lower strap holes, said upper and lower strap holes being spaced apart from each other by a distance that is greater than the length of the respective one of said opposite sides of said filter sheet.